

Message Text

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41

ACTION NEA-16

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 AEC-11 AID-20 CEA-02 CIAE-00

CIEP-02 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-11 FPC-01 H-03 INR-10

INT-08 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 OMB-01 PM-07 RSC-01 SAM-01

SCI-06 SP-03 SS-20 STR-08 TRSE-00 FEA-02 DRC-01 PA-04

USIA-15 PRS-01 /190 W

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R 101125Z JUL 74

FM AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0199

INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY DOHA

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MANAMA

AMEMBASSY MUSCAT

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EO 11652: NA

TAGS: ENRG QA

SUBJ: GOQ CREATES QATAR GENERAL PETROLEUM CORPORATION (QGPC)

1. IN DECREE ISSUED BY AMIR, SHEIKH KHALIFA, QATAR HAS CREATED QGPC TO REPLACE MORIBUND QATAR NATIONAL PETROLEUM COMPANY.

2. FUNCTIONS OF NEW CORPORATION WILL BE PRIMARILY TWOFOLD:

A. SERVE AS OPERATING COMPANY TO OPERATE QATAR FERTILIZER PLANT AND QATAR'S SMALL REFINERY, AND

B. SERVE AS ACTION AND WATCHDOG ORGANIZATION TO ADMINISTER QATAR'S SIXTY PERCENT PARTICIPATION SHARE OF OPERATING OIL

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COMPANIES.

3. BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF QGPC CONTAINS ALL THE BIG GUNDS IN QATAR'S PETROLEUM SCENE. CHAIRMAN IS SHEIKH ABDUL AZIZ BIN KHALIFA AL-THANI, AMIR'S SON AND MINISTER PETROLEUM AND FINANCE. VICE-CHAIRMAN IS HASSAN KAMAL, SPECIAL ADVISOR TO THE AMIR. OTHER MEMBERS ARE ISSA AL-KAWARI, INFORMATION MINISTER AND CLOSE PERSONAL ADVISOR TO AMIR; ALI JAIDAH, DIRECTOR OF PETROLEUM AFFAIRS; SAID MIS'HAL, DIRECTOR OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT, AND TWO TECHNICAL EXPERTS FROM THE MINISTRY, ABDULLA FALAT AND DR TAHIR HADIDI.

4. OF IMMEDIATE INTEREST IS FACT THAT QGPC, IN CAPACITY AS ADMINISTRATOR OF GOQ SIXTY PERCENT PARTICIPATION, WILL BE FOCAL POINT FOR UPCOMING SALE OR BUY-BACK OF PARTICIPATION CRUDE FOR SECOND HALF 74.

5. COMMENT: REAL LINES OF QGPC'S OPERATION AND CONTROL HAVE NOT YET BEEN ESTABLISHED. IT CLEAR, HOWEVER, THAT ABDUL AZIZ, KAMAL AND KAWARI WILL NOT BE ABLE DEVOTE SIGNIFICANT TIME TO NEW ORGANIZATION. THIS LEAVES JAIDAH AND MIS'HAL, WHO HAVE LONG BEEN AT EACH OTHER'S THROATS (MIS'HAL WAS JAIDAH'S PREDECESSOR AS DIRECTOR OF PETROLEUM). IT WILL BE INTERESTING WATCH TO SEE WHO EVENTUALLY EMERGES ON TOP AS REAL POWER (AFTER THE AMIR) IN QATAR'S PETROLEUM MATTERS. INITIAL BETTING IS ON MIS'HAL, WHO, BY THE WAY, IS PALESTINIAN.
STOLTZFUS

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